

CLAIMS

1. A latching mechanism for latching a battery cover to an electronic device,
comprising:

5 a portion of a housing of the electronic device having a latch seat, the latch
seat having at least two openings therethrough defining at least one guide;

 a latch member disposed in the latch seat and having a pair of retaining legs
extending through the openings, the retaining legs each having a retaining groove, the
latch member having a latch groove for retaining a battery for use with the electronic
10 device;

 a retaining clip having undercut features for engaging the retaining grooves of
the latch member, for capturing the at least one guide between the retaining clip and
the latch member, thereby retaining the latch member in the latch seat;

 means for holding the retaining clip in place in the housing; and
15 spring means for biasing the latch member into a latch position.

2. A latching mechanism as defined in claim 1, wherein the at least one guide
comprises two guides.

20 3. A latching mechanism as defined in claim 1, wherein the latch member
further comprises a spring mount, the spring means is a coil spring mounted on the
spring mount.

4. A latching mechanism as defined in claim 1, wherein the means for holding the retaining clip in place in the housing comprises a component of the electronic device.

5 5. A latching mechanism as defined in claim 4, wherein the component of the electronic device is a speaker assembly.

6. A latching mechanism as defined in claim 1, wherein the means for holding the retaining clip in place in the housing comprises an adhesive member placed over
10 the retaining clip.

7. A latching mechanism as defined in claim 6, wherein the adhesive member is an acoustic dam.

8. A battery latch for a mobile communication device having a housing, a portion of a housing of the electronic device having a latch seat, the latch seat having at least two openings therethrough defining at least one guide, the battery latch comprising:

5 a latch member disposed in the latch seat and having a pair of retaining legs extending through the openings, the retaining legs each having a retaining groove, the latch member having a latch groove for retaining a battery for use with the electronic device;

 a retaining clip having undercut features for engaging the retaining grooves of
10 the latch member, for capturing the at least one guide between the retaining clip and the latch member, thereby retaining the latch member in the latch seat;

 means for holding the retaining clip in place in the housing; and

 spring means for biasing the latch member into a latch position;

 wherein the a major surface of the housing defines an X-Y plane.

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9. A battery latch as defined in claim 8, wherein the at least one guide comprises two guides.

10. A battery latch as defined in claim 8, wherein the latch member further
20 comprises a spring mount, the spring means is a coil spring mounted on the spring mount.

11. A battery latch as defined in claim 8, wherein the means for holding the retaining clip in place in the housing comprises a component of the electronic device.

12. A battery latch as defined in claim 11, wherein the component of the electronic device is a speaker assembly.

5 13. A battery latch as defined in claim 8, wherein the means for holding the retaining clip in place in the housing comprises an adhesive member placed over the retaining clip.

10 14. A battery latch as defined in claim 13, wherein the adhesive member is an acoustic dam.

15. A method of assembling a battery latch for a mobile communication device, the mobile communication device having a housing having a major surface defining an X-Y plane, a Z axis being defined in a direction normal to the X-Y plane, the method comprising:

5 providing on the housing a latch seat having a plurality of openings through the housing, and wherein at least one guide is defined between the openings;

 placing a latch member into the latch seat along the Z axis, the latch member having at least two retaining legs which fit through the openings in the housing, the retaining legs having retaining groves, the retaining groves being substantially parallel

10 to the X-Y plane;

 placing a retaining clip onto the latch member from an opposite side of the housing, the retaining clip having undercut features which slide into the retaining groves along an X axis; and

 placing a retaining feature in contact with the retaining clip to hold the
15 retaining clip in place.

16. A method of assembling a battery latch as defined by claim 15, wherein placing the retaining feature in contact with the retaining clip comprises placing an adhesive member in contact with the retaining clip.

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17. A method of assembling a battery latch as defined by claim 16, wherein placing the adhesive member in contact with the retaining clip comprises placing an acoustic dam in contact with the retaining clip.

18. A method of assembling a battery latch as defined by claim 15, wherein placing the retaining feature in contact with the retaining clip comprises placing a component of the mobile communication device in contact with the retaining clip.

- 5 19. A method of assembling a battery latch as defined by claim 18, wherein placing the component in contact with the retaining clip comprises placing a speaker assembly of the mobile communication device in contact with the retaining clip.